

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

FIELDWOOD ENERGY LLC
Plaintiff,

V.

VALERO MARKETING AND
SUPPLY COMPANY
Defendant.

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Adversary No. 20-03497

Related to bankruptcy case no 20-33948
pending before the US Bankruptcy Court,
Southern District of Texas.

PLAINTIFF'S ANSWER TO COUNTERCLAIM

COMES NOW Plaintiff Fieldwood Energy LLC ("Fieldwood") and files this Original Answer to Defendant Valero Marketing and Supply Company's Counterclaim, and would show the Court as follows:

Answer

1. Fieldwood admits the allegations in Paragraph 1 of the Counterclaim.
2. Fieldwood admits the allegations in Paragraph 2 of the Counterclaim to the extent that they recite the terms of the Purchase Contract.
3. Fieldwood admits that the allegations in Paragraph 3 of the Counterclaim to the extent that they recite the contents of Exhibit A to Dkt. No. 4.
4. Fieldwood admits the allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of the Counterclaim.
5. Fieldwood admits the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the Counterclaim.

6. Fieldwood does not have sufficient information to admit or deny what Valero's beliefs were in May 2020 as alleged in paragraph 6 of the Counterclaim. Fieldwood denies that Valero had a right to seek adequate assurance. Fieldwood admits that it refused to provide adequate assurance, but denies that it was required to do so.

7. Fieldwood denies the allegations and legal claim in paragraph 7 of the Counterclaim. More specifically, Fieldwood denies that any alleged breach caused damages to Valero.

8. Fieldwood admits that the Purchase Contract is governed by Texas law and involves a sale of goods. However, Fieldwood denies that Article 2 of the UCC governs all aspects of the transaction to the exclusion of contractual provisions in the Purchase Agreement and Texas common law.

9. Paragraph 9 contains an incomplete recitation of the Texas Business & Commerce Code and to which no response is required. Fieldwood admits that the Purchase Contract obligated Fieldwood to deliver approximately 10,000 barrels per day and that it did not deliver any crude oil to Valero in May 2020. Fieldwood denies that it breached because it failed to deliver adequate assurance, as allegedly contractually required.

10. Paragraph 10 contains an incomplete recitation of Article 2.713 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Fieldwood would submit the full text of Article 2.713 along with any other applicable provisions of Article 2 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code.

11. Paragraph 11 contains legal allegations to which no response is required, to

the extent a response is required, the allegations are denied.

- a. The allegations of Paragraph 11 a., b, & c. purport to be recitations of the terms of the Purchase Agreement, Fieldwood denies such allegations to the extent they are different than the terms of the Purchase Contract.

12. Fieldwood denies the allegations in Paragraph 12 of the Counterclaim.

13. Fieldwood denies the allegations in Paragraph 13 of the Counterclaim.

14. Fieldwood denies the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Counterclaim.

15. No response is required with respect to Paragraph 15 of the Counterclaim

16. Fieldwood denies that Valero is entitled to any attorney fees in this matter.

17. No response to the “Conclusion & Prayer” paragraph in the Counterclaim

is required, but to the extent a response is required, those allegations are denied.

Affirmative Defenses

Fieldwood asserts the following affirmative defenses to Valero’s counter claim:

18. Valero’s Counterclaim is barred by the doctrine of waiver and estoppel.

19. Valero’s Counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, because it failed to mitigate its damages.

20. Valero’s Counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, by their own acts and/or omissions.

21. Valero’s counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, by their respective failure to comply with the terms of the Purchase Contract.

22. Valero’s Counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, because they have not

satisfied all conditions precedent.

23. Valero's Counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, by their prior material breach(es).

24. Valero's counterclaim is barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of unclean hands.

Prayer

For these reasons, Plaintiff, Fieldwood Energy LLC, requests that the Court dismiss the counterclaim and render judgment that Valero takes nothing, assess costs against Valero, and awards all other relief in law and in equity to which Plaintiff, Fieldwood Energy LLC, is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCK KEENAN LLP

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument has been forwarded to all known counsel of record via CM/ECF filing and in compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on the 11th day of February 2021.

/s/Robert L. Paddock
ROBERT L. PADDOCK